

Message Text

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43

ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 NEA-10 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07

H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01

SPC-03 SS-20 USIA-15 IO-14 AID-20 DRC-01 OMB-01 SAB-01

/168 W

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R 141235Z JAN 74

FM USINT ALGIERS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0013

INFO AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

AMEBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY RABAT

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

AMEMBASSY TUNIS

UNCLAS ALGIERS 0079

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, XI

SUBJ: INITIAL ALGERIAN REACTION TO LIBYAN-TUNISIAN
MERGER ANNOUNCEMENT

DEPT PASS CAIRO

1. FRONT PAGE EDITORIAL IN GOVT-CONTROLLED EL MOUDJAHID
JAN. 14 GREETED MERGER ANNOUNCEMENT WITH "SUPRISE,
RESERVE AND SCEPTICSM". EDITORIAL NOTES HASTE OF
ANNOUNCMENT, COMING AFTER A SINGLE BRIEF MEETING
BETWEEN QADHAFI AND BOURGUIBA, WHICH WAS ITSELF HASTILY
ARRANGED. IT QUOTES BOURGUIBA'S PAST COUNSEL TO
QADHAFI THAT UNION WOULD REQUIRE DECADES AND EVEN
ENTURIES TO ACHIEVE AND WARNS THAT ARAB HISTORY HAS
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SEEN OTHER EPHEMERAL UNIONS WHICH WERE UNABLE TO SURVIVE.

OTHER ARTICLES QUOTE AT LENGTH FROM BOURGUIBA'S DECM 1972
SPEECH AND CALL ATTENTION TO GREAT DISPARITIES BETWEEN
BOURGUIBA AND ADHAFI.

2. TUNISIAN DELEGATION COMPOSED OF HABIB CHATTI AND
HASSAN BELKHODJA MET WITH FONMIN BOUTEFLIKA JAN
13, SHORTLY BEFORE ARRIVAL IN ALGIERS OF MOROCCAN FONMIN
BENHIMA AND MINSTATE BAHNINI, BRINGING MESSAGE FROM
KING HASSAN.
EGLETON

NOTE BY OC/T: NOT PASSED CAIRO.

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NNN

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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
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